

Friday, December 19, 2003

Volume 18, Number 46

Warren Weekly

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Thought for the Week: *May you all have a Very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.*



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

When all your shopping, wrapping, partying, and organizing is done, you need one more thing to do, right? Try this. Come to McNatt at 11 pm and welcome in Christmas in a more meaningful way. There will be both sacred and secular music played by Ben Morton, mingled with the Christmas story in Scripture as read by Stan Morton. There will probably be some Manheim Steamroller as well as choral and country music. There will finally be time to look at the Christmas lights twin-

ning quietly. It will be OK for the kids to sleep next to you. Come; there will be a softly padded pew waiting just for you. Everyone is welcome.

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The Van Buren Public Library will be closed December 24, 25, 26 and 27. We will reopen on December 29. We will close at noon on December 31 and all day on January 1.

MEMORIAL BOWS

Look for the list of memorial bows in the January 2 edition of the Warren Weekly.

Just a reminder – there will be no paper next week, the week of Christmas due to scheduling. The paper will be issued the week of January 2.

MEMORIES OF WARREN

Ruth Herring has crafted ornaments for the Warren Public Library's Christmas tree from pictures of Warren in days gone by. Stop by, enjoy the beautiful tree, reminisce over the ornaments and check out a book to relax with after a stressful day. The Library wishes you and yours a very Merry Christmas and peace and happiness in 2004.

BUSINESS CLOSING

It is true Bob and Nancy Smyth will be closing Handcrafters Marketplace located on the corner of Wayne and 3rd Street. Shoppers still have time to visit their favorite vendors. Now is a perfect time to find that special unique holiday gift! There are special mark down items through out the store. Holiday hours are Mon-Fri 10:00 to 5:30, Saturdays 10 – 4:00, and Sundays 1:00 – 4:00. (Editors Note: The community is sad to see them go, but we wish them well on their retirement.)

ADOPTS REVISED POLICY

In accordance to the Children's Internet Protection Act and Privacy Act, the Warren Public Library Board has adopted a revised computer policy. Patrons must have a valid Warren Library card and present this card to the librarian on duty for scanning. No card = no computer use.

Patrons must have on file a signed form stating that they have read the Library's "Acceptable Use and Safety Policy" and "Policies for Use of Public Access Computing Resources." Parents of children under the age of 18 must also sign the child's form granting permission for their child to use the library computers. These forms need to be completed at the library in the librarian's presence.

Overdue library materials and unpaid fees and fines will result in denial of library computer privileges. Violations of any Library standard of behavior will also result in the withholding of privileges.

Computer use is limited to one hour per day by any person; one-half hour if someone is waiting to use the computer unless research is being done. No more than two persons may be at a workstation at one time. "Chat" is not allowed on the library computers and violation will result in loss of computer privileges.

USPS HOLIDAY HOURS

The Warren Post Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 and will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25. Regular service counter hours will be observed on Friday, December 26, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. The Post Office will also be open regular hours on New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31st. They will be closed on New Year's Day but resume regular hours on Friday, January 2, 2004. The box lobby is open 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. 365 days a year for box customers to retrieve mail.

NEEDS YOUR HELP

There are only a few more days until Christmas and The Salvation Army has interviewed over 250 families needing Christmas assistance this year.

As of today Major Ashcraft said, "We have received a little over \$32,500 or 50% of our goal of \$65,000 through the kettles and mail donations. A great number of people have lost their jobs or have recently been laid off and they are counting on all of us to help them get through the holidays. The Angel Tree at Wal-Mart is full of children's tags needing someone to take them and purchase items for the children. We have made out over 380 tags for children which is 60 more than last year. A child may depend on us to have a present to open on Christmas day. We can only assist through the generosity of the wonderful people of Huntington County", Ashcraft said, "and I hope that as you make your holiday plans that you will remember that "Sharing is Caring".

Donations may be dropped off at 1424 E Market St or mailed to PO Box 586, Huntington IN 46750.



DOING GOOD AT MMC

Markle Medical Center held its third annual bake sale/raffle the first week of December. The staff does the baking and Tammy Jackson cross-stitches an 11 x 15 Christmas picture for the raffle. Proceeds go to charities in Huntington County and gifts are delivered to widowed patients in Warren.

Pictured front row (l-r) are Tammy Jackson (holding the picture she made for the raffle) and Linda St John, in the back row Ginny Caudle and Carol Eckert.



Seasons Greetings

from the Warren Weekly Family
Nicki, Jack, Andy, Quaid & A leigha,
Mary Jo & Bonnie

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e-mail: wwklly@citiznet.com

WARREN WEEKLY is a free paper for the Warren, Indiana area. It is distributed every Friday to rural postal patrons of Warren, Liberty Center, and Van Buren, Indiana. The Warren Weekly is available at Cady's Express, and Gene's Market in downtown Warren. The Warren Weekly is also available in several businesses in Van Buren.

It is sent anywhere in the Continental United States for three (3) months for \$9.50, six (6) months for \$19 or \$38 for one year. Mail name, address, and payment to WARREN WEEKLY at: PO Box 695, Warren, IN 46792.

Deadline for news and/or advertising is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, for that week's edition. Call if you need something in but won't have it here on time.

Leave news and/or advertising at PJ's Flower and Gift Shop or mail to P O Box 695, Warren. Van Buren residents may call Mary Jo Zoda at 765-934-3637.

WARREN WEEKLY will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The firm assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part in which an error may occur, provided that it is reported within five days of publication.

The publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement.

KUDOS, KICKS & KARATS

TORI UPDATE

We would like to let you know how Tori is doing, almost a year after her original illness. So many of you have been asking, and we would like to thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Tori had two surgeries over the summer, and started what we thought was the last stretch of recovery. We then realized she needed another surgery on her hip. She just had this surgery on December 11th. She is at home recovering, again, with a smile on her face! Hopefully, in a bout a month, we can restart Rehab (outpatient in Fort Wayne), and she can be on her way to walking again. She will have another surgery in approximately 9-12 months to finish her hip procedure. Tori is doing very well.


We would, again, like to take this time to thank all of you for all your thoughts and prayers. God Bless You.

Tori Martin Family

THANK YOU

I would like to thank my family and friends for their love, special prayers, cards, flowers and kindness during my illness. I'm surrounded with all these wonders, so I know with all this, I have nothing to do but Get Well. I also know that I have special angels in heaven watching over me.

Linda Edwards
 Have a Wonderful Christmas
 and a Happy, Happy New Year.






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VB CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 765-934-4074

Mike Helms, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Adult Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church 10:30a.m.
 Youth Hours 6:00p.m.
 Evening Praise Hour..... 6:00p.m.
 Hour of Power (Wed) 7:00p.m.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH Van Buren, Indiana 765-934-2199

Rev. Pat Mullen, Pastor

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:40 a.m.
 Bible Study, Wednesday..... 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Fellowship Sun 6:00 p.m.

THE CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE — Majenica

Rev. Gus Hacker

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m.

MT. ETNA UNITED METHODIST 260/468-2148

Rev. Tom DeFries - Pastor

Sunday
 Trad. Worship 8:30 a.m.
 Mdrn Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Fellowship & Classes 9:30 a.m.

Come As You Are

Kids Club, Youth Group & Adult
 Studies - all Sunday 6:00 p.m.

JEFFERSON CENTER UNITED METHODIST

Corner of 900S & 300W
Kathie Jones, Pastor

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

WARREN UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Mike Beall, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE & STAFF NURSERY WARREN CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-3022

*Eric Vitz, Interim Minister
Becky Hartley, SS Supt.*

Fellowship 9:15 a.m.
 Worship & Communion 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN 8888S 1100W-90, Warren 375-2779

Lynn Mefferd, Pastor

Sun - 1st Worship Service.....
 8:15a.m.
 Sunday School..... 9:30a.m.
 2nd Worship Service... 10:30a.m.
 Youth Group (6th-12th). 5:30p.m.

WED - "Circle of Friends" (Begins 9/ 17)

(3yr-5th grade)... 6:30-8p.m.
**McnATT UNITED METHODIST
375-4359**

*Bill VanHaften, Pastor
B. Morton, Supt.*

Coffee Fellowship..... 8:30
 a.m.
 Worship 9:15 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Bible Study - Wed. 7:00 p.m.

WARREN WESLEYAN CHURCH 375-2330

www.hows.net/46792WCT
*Rev. Bill Barlow, Pastor
Wesley Welch, Supt.*

Sue Brown, Children's Ministry

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:15 a.m.
 Children's Church 10:15 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00p.m.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00p.m. LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH 694-6622

Pastor Dan Sommer

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Fellowship 9:55a.m.
 Worship 10:15a.m.
 Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

SALAMONIE CHURCH OF BRETHREN 468-2412

Mel Zumbrun, Pastor

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Church School 10:45a.m.

BUCKEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH 758-2085

*Nathan Doyle, Minister
Sandy Keplinger, Supt.*

Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. BANQUO CHRISTIAN CHURCH 8294S 900W 35

Gary Riley, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Youth Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

THURS. KINGS KIDS 6:30 p.m. BYG Youth Svc. (2&4Sun.) .. 6:00 p.m. CWF Ladies (3 Tue) 6:00 p.m. 1st Sun. (Qtrly) Praise Hour.. 6:30 p.m.

LIBERTY CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Steve Bard, Pastor

Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

HILLCREST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 375-2510

Bill Keen, Pastor

Aylssa Lugbill, Assoc. Pastor Bus Service 375-2510

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Group (Wed.)..... 6:00 p.m.

WED. MIDWEEK SERVICE..... 7:00 p.m. UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2102

Charles Dye ,Jr., Pastor

Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
 Junior Church 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNION 1st Sunday of the Month Fun Factory 1st/3rd Sundays 6:00p.m. THE NEW BEGINNING

*SR 218, 2 1/8 mile west of Poneto
Steve Sutton, Pastor*

765/728-2065 for more info
 Sunday Worship..... 10:30a.m.
 Thursday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

WARREN 1st BAPTIST CHURCH Corner of N. Wayne & Matilda Sts.

*Rev. Bill Fisher, Pastor of Preach-
ing and Discipleship*

*Rev. Robert Bothast, Pastor of
Family Life*

Sandy Richison, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

VB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 765-934-1431

Pastor Blake J. Neff

Youth Pastor Adam Pierce

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
 UMYF 10:45a.m.
 UMYF 6- 7:30 p.m.

Prayer-Bible Study (Thur)..... 7:30 p.m.
 www.vanburenumc.org

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST Rev. Barry Humble, Pastor Joe Kober, S.S. Supt.

Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

HANFIELD UNITED METHODIST 101 N 400 E - Marion, IN 765/664-8726

Timothy Helm, Senior Pastor

1st Worship..... 8:20 a.m.
 2nd Worship..... 9:45 a.m.
 3rd Worship 11:11 a.m.

Sunday School Children & Youth Programs PLUM TREE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 375-2691

Dr. Jeane Spoor, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.

LANCASTER WESLEYAN 468-2411

*Doug Sharrard, Pastor
Teresa Davis, S.S. Supt.*

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: CYC/Teen/Adult Meetings 7:00 p.m. UNITED METHODIST MEMORIAL HOME

SUNDAY:
 Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
 OTHER SERVICES BY ANNOUNCEMENT
 Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat

CHapel Services 9:00 a.m. MOUNT ETNA WESLEYAN Wayne Wright, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
 Mid-Week (Wed) 6:00 p.m.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST 8013W 1100S - 90, Montpelier

Student Pastor - Eric Dubach

Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Wed Evening Carry-in & Fellowship
 6:30 p.m.

*Attend the Church
of your choice*

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MAKE SURE NO ONE LEAVES YOUR PARTY A LOSER

Huntington, IN -Will you host a killer at your holiday party? Don't take a chance. Don't let your party guests join the rising statistics as impaired drivers who cause a traffic death.

Learn safe party hosting tips on Friday, Dec. 12 at Huntington's Wal-Mart store, 10am - noon and Huntington K Mart store, 1 pm - 3 pm. You can pickup delicious "mocktails" recipes (non-alcoholic drinks) and simulate impairment too by wearing Fatal Vision Goggles while performing basic tasks.

"We want to ensure everyone is doing their part to keep the holidays happy and safe for all who share the roads," said Sgt. John Kreiger, Huntington Police Department.

Huntington Police Department is offering this event as part of the You Drink and Drive, You Lose, campaign, a program of the Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, a division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

Nationally someone is killed every 30 minutes due to impaired driving. That's almost 18,000 people dying each year in addition to the almost 275,000 people who are injured.


Impaired driving violators may lose their licenses, time from their jobs, and money in fines and court costs. They may also face imprisonment for repeat offenses, assault and vehicular manslaughter. "There will be no warnings. Our message is simple - You Drink and Drive, You Lose," said Sgt. Kreiger.

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For more information regarding You Drink and Drive, You Lose, contact Huntington Police Department at (260) 356-7110 or the Governor's Council at (317) 232-1295 or log onto www.in.gov/cji/clickit.

NEVER CLOSES

The frantic shopper can take the hassle out of the holidays by taking advantage of the online holiday offerings and services at the Post Office that never sleeps, www.usps.com. This online Post Office is always open! The USPS website offers a customer-friendly, step-by-step, easy-to-use Holiday Guide to the many holiday offerings and services available online including:

Save a trip to the Post Office by printing a label online with Click-N-Ship. With Click-N-Ship service, print shipping labels online, with or without postage, then schedule a pick up.

Stamps for every holiday of the season. Choose the stamp to match the greeting! Thirty-seven cents will buy a First-Class postage stamp, just as it will next year and the year after that, as the Postal Service keeps its pledge of stable rates through 2006. Stamps are available for purchase online and at many ATMs, vending machines and local stores,

as well as the Post Office. Find Alternative Stamp Locations on the website.

Personalize holiday greetings by designing cards online and sending them with a click of a mouse at Net Post Card Store.

If the customer really needs to go to the Post Office, there's a Post Office Locator that offers information on 38,000 retail locations nationwide, as well as information on how to get there and special holiday hours.

Find a Zip Code. Don't guess! Using an incorrect Zip Code will delay delivery.

Calculate Postage. Great value for the right price!

The United States Postal Service has been delivering America's holiday greetings for 214 years. Customers can be sure holiday cards and packages arrive on time by checking Postal Service guidelines for mailing domestically, internationally and for military mail.

Find unusual gifts at the Holiday Gift Center, from custom framed art pieces to Pro cycling Gear.

Track and Confirm Delivery Service. Verify a package's delivery status online.

Hold the Mail by making arrangements quickly and easily with USPS online service and schedule a date for redelivery.

Returning holiday merchandise is hassle-free using Click-N-Ship.

COUNCIL NOTES

Chod Boxell conducted the Dec. 8 meeting of the Warren Town Council in the absence of president Harold Jones. The meeting was held in the Town Hall Annex and opened at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge to the American Flag.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

Quotes for the '91 Caprice police vehicle were opened. Bids were: \$262, Bill Cardwright; \$300, Rich Schuman; \$800, Kenneth Rippey. Council accepted the offer from Rippey.

The Electric Project was reported

to be about completed, except along Railroad Street. Spectrum Engineering will be scheduling a meeting to discuss long term planning.

In a report on the Wastewater Project there had been a change order from Indiana Construction for extension of time only.

Changes had to be made with the United Methodist Memorial Home tree project. Substitutions were necessary, causing an increase in price. Council agreed to the change.

Council approved a cost of \$2,195 for fixed asset software. Quotes will be requested for a folder insert, stamping machine for the

CONTINUED PAGE 4



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Community Calendar

Items listed here are open to the public. If there is an admission charge or items are for sale or a donation is necessary, there is a one-time \$5 fee to be listed. Events can be listed for as long as 6 months. (If an event is cancelled, please notify WW.) Only event, place, time, and sponsor, for events in Warren, and the surrounding area will be listed.

Dec 17 Van Buren Town Council, 7 p.m.
Dec 22 Warren Town Council, 6:30, Town Hall Annex
Dec 26 Warren Recycle Day
Mar 26, 2004 Salamonie School Carnival Food 5:15 - 7, Games 6-8
Bread of Life Food Pantry - Wed 4 - 5:30pm, Sat 10 - 11:30 at KBC or by appointment - Call 375-2381. **Bargain Basement** - Friday & Saturday 9 - 4 at KBC **Depression Support Group** 2nd & 4th Thurs at Hope Missionary Church, Bluffton 6-7:30 **Salamonie Valley Museum** Open Sundays 1 to 4 p.m. at KBC **Storytime at Warren Public Library** 10 a.m. Fridays, **Walking in the Gym** 7a.m. to Noon at Knight Bergman Center

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 3

new billing forms.

Council adopted Ordinance 2003-7, component pay, in the amount of \$13,200.

There were two appraisals for the '90 grass buggy. Eckman Motors appraised the vehicle at \$7500 and Crane Ford at \$8,000. No further action taken.

Resolution 8-2003, transfer within budget, was adopted as an end of year procedure.

Council voted to pay \$80.00 Huntington County Chamber dues.

Clerk-Treasurer Marilyn Morrison gave the November financial report.

The Utility Software update was rescheduled for Feb. 18. The Clerk's office will be closed Feb. 18 and 19 for the update.

Darrel Bice reported from the Utility/Street Departments. Peerless had provided quotes for cleaning town wells, approximately \$12,000 per well. Matter taken under advisement.

There had been repairs to the road grater.

Fire Chief Tim Ford presented his monthly report. He also expressed his thanks to the Chamber of Commerce for the dinner

furnished on Thursday evening for the Fire Department.

The November activity report was given by the Police Department.

New playground equipment had been ordered for Tower Park. The Park Board will meet in March 2004.

Announcements included: Dec. 22, Council meeting; Dec. 24, 25, 26, Christmas holiday; Dec. 31, Jan. 1, New Year's holiday.

LETTER TO EDITOR

As the year comes to an end it is a perfect time to reflect on the many blessings this year has brought. The Youth Services Bureau is so blessed to have the support of so many caring groups, businesses and individuals. Thousands of lives have been touched by our agency this year. Whether it was a student who was suspended from school, a young teen mother, an overwhelmed parent or grandparent, a student seeking homework assistance or community member needing information the YSB was able to assist them because of you!

We are often asked, "What kind of youth or family does the YSB help?" That's easy. We help any

youth or family who wants or needs us. Growing up today is hard, hard on the kids and the parents. It doesn't matter if your child is an honor student, struggling or somewhere in the middle, they are still facing many of the same conflicts. Drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, school issues, friends and families are just a few of the many issues our young people deal with on a daily basis. In an ideal world, every youth would have a support system readily available whenever the youth needed some guidance or encouragement. In an ideal world, parents would have their own support system that could give them some guidance and encouragement when being a parent isn't a whole lot of fun. Sadly, we don't live in a time where everyone knows everyone and helping your neighbor was the norm not the exception. We live in a time where everyone is so busy dealing with their own lives and problems that even thinking about someone else's problems is the farthest thing from your mind.

The Youth Services Bureau of Huntington County offers programs that assist youth and families in the areas of educational support, information and referral,

family issues, tobacco education, safety and well being of the children/youth and crisis intervention. We provide a safe, supportive environment for both the youth and the parents and try to serve as a "safety net" for whoever needs us.

As the year comes to a close, we once again thank the community for their support and because of the great need and demands placed on the YSB in 2003 we are also asking the caring community to search their hearts and financially support the agency by sending in a year-end tax, deductible donation to the YSB at 1344 Maple Drive, Huntington.

PLANS PARTY AND PRAYER SERVICE

The Board of Deacons invite your family to come to the First Baptist Church on December 31st 2003 for a New Year's Eve Party and Prayer Service. The evenings festivities will start at 8:00 p.m. with games and mixers. Food will be served at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. (You'll have to come and see what special treats will be served at each interval.) At approximately 11:15 p.m. We will gather in the sanctuary for a time

CONTINUED PAGE 5



*We wish you
a Christmas
filled with love.*

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& Tanning Salon**

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*Peaceful
Seasons*

*from the
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& Happy New Year*

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from*

Ackley Automotive

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Dan, A J
& Trudy




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Christmas
from
Everyone
at ...**

**WARREN CABLE TV
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Goodwill To All Men.**

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your families a very Merry
Christmas season.*

*Ron, Velma and all the
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and a world of thanks.

**WARREN FURNITURE
WORKS**

375-3600

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 4

of music and worship. Scott Lamperd will be providing music during the evening also. As the Midnight hour approaches and the year 2003 comes to a close, we will have a time of prayer and thanksgiving with additional focus on the challenges and hopes for 2004. Mark your calendar now so that you can "Ring out the old" and "Bring in the new" with our church family and friends.

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Huntington County Chapter of the American Red Cross is proud to announce the winners of the drawing from the recent United Technologies Health Fair.

The first shift the winners are: Phyllis Duggan (Red Cross t-shirt), Joan Morris (Red Cross hat), and Lisa Southerland (Red Cross hat).

The second shift the winners are: Flora Goble (Red Cross t-shirt), Deb Karst (Red Cross hat), and Joshua Niocum (Red Cross hat).

The third shift the winners are: Terri Eib (Red Cross t-shirt), Doris Phillippe (Red Cross hat), and Kris Hendersen (Red Cross hat).

We also thank all the volunteers who worked at the health fair: Vivian Barton, Roger Buzzard, Diane Farkas, Eleanor Mann, Lois Swain, and Susan Zahn.

HATTER'S TEA

Our Christmas Tea has become an annual event; hosted by Dee Pattison in her beautifully decorated home. We enjoyed her Christmas reading and all the fancy home made "goodies" with the memorable tea. The Queen Mum presented the thank you received from Taos, NM, an autographed poster of a lovely painting of Robert Mirabel, the famed Indian performer who received the Artist of the Year award recently. We sent Christmas gifts to the school children at Taos last year and have done so again, this year. We have sent out our 36th box of "goodies" to our "adopted" boys in Iraq. We have been so blessed with help on the postage from the crew of the USS Salamonie in addition to items to enclose in the boxes.

Those present to enjoy this happy occasion were: Fritz Boxell, Martha Buzzard, Jo Chatham, Willy Hethcote, Irene Henderson, Sandi Howard, Chris Knox, Velma Lindstrom, Lilly Nutter, Virginia Olson, Dee Pattison, Mary Palmer, Marian Rice, Helen Jo Strassner, Helen Stokes, Kay Woods and Donna Zent.

It has been an event-filled, busy year. We recently attended the big Red Hatter Tea at Hostess House and were featured in the newspaper write up of that event. We are looking forward to 12 Jan. when Mary Brown and Irene Henderson are starting the new

year with our first get-together.

SIGMA PHI MET

The Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Gamma International Sorority meeting was held on Dec. 2nd. in the sorority room of the Knight-Bergman Civic Center. President Sandy Eichhorn presiding.

The Roll Call was answered by: Your favorite Christmas tree topper.

A discussion was held to pick several needy families and individuals to give aid to this Holiday season from the sorority.

Also talked about was the sale of the Concession stand at Tower Park. An article was placed in the Warren Weekly last month and if anyone is interested in purchasing the stand, they may contact Sandy Eichhorn.

The Cub Scouts held a food drive to provide for the needy families and individuals in the community over the Thanksgiving holiday.

A social night will be held on Dec. 16th, 7:30 pm for members to bring their Secret sister a little something for Christmas.

Those members present were; Glendora Booher, Opal Brubaker, Sandy Booher, Betty Yoder, Susan Ralston, Suzette Gephart, Sandy Eichhorn, Sondra Zabel, Beth Ostermeyer, Sharon Gebhart, Carol Irick, Tara Korporal, Sally Ford, Peggy Clark, Elise Smith and Shelly Stafford.

Next business meeting will be Jan. 6th at 7:30 pm at the Knight-Bergman Civic Center.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

(Editors Note: The following article was emailed to me and I wanted to share it with everyone who reads the Warren Weekly - please enjoy.)

There is one Christmas Carol that has always baffled me. What in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

Today I found out, thanks to the Internet.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics.

It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church.

Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality the children could remember.

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.

The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control.

The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.


The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

So there is your history for today. This knowledge was shared with me and I found it interesting and enlightening and now I know how that strange song became a Christmas carol.

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON





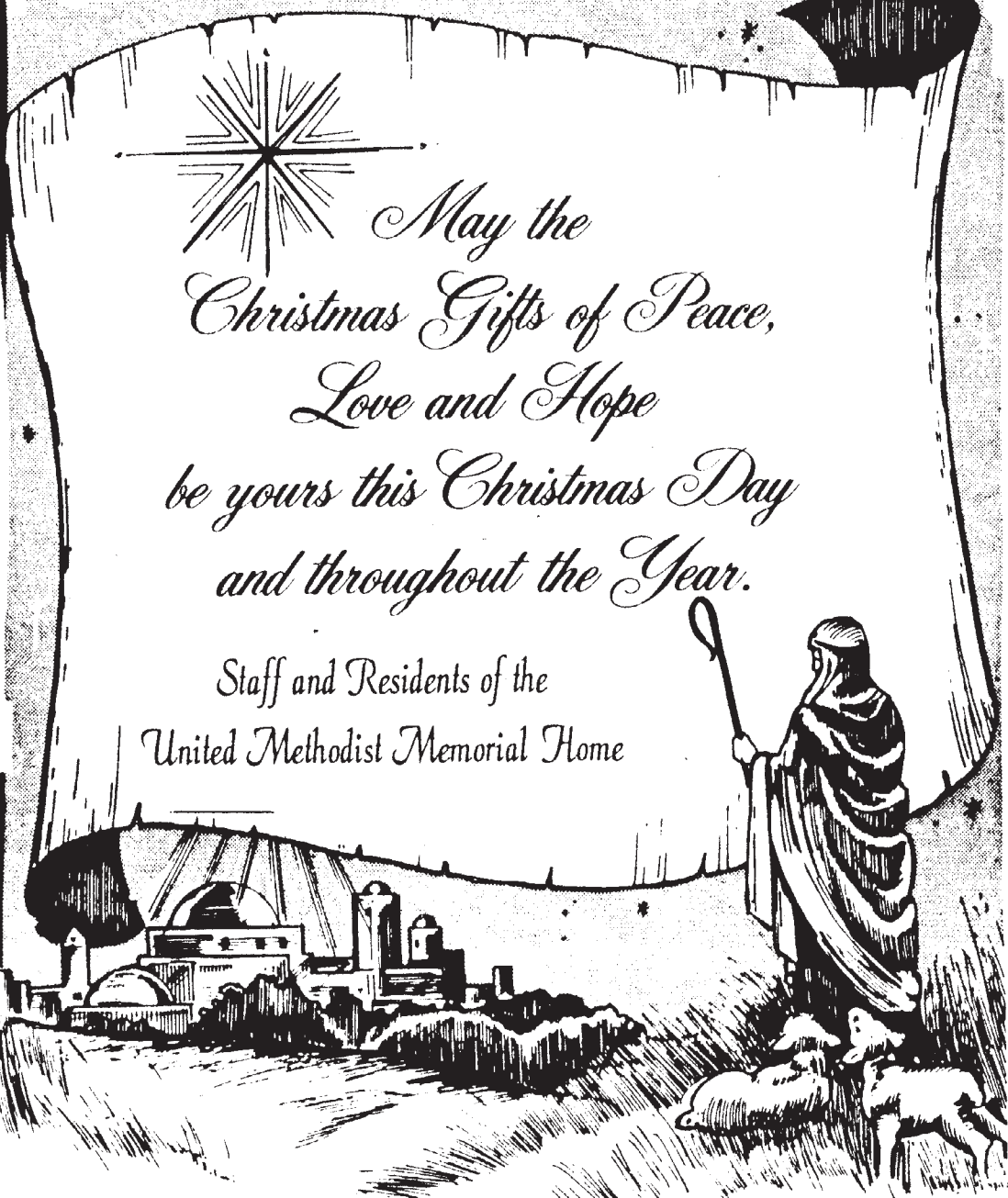
**Happy
Holidays**
**Bowers, Brewer,
Garrett and Wiley**
Attorneys at Law

Happy Holidays
from
**Karen's Country
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Seasons Greetings
from the Office of
Kevin DeaKyne, DDS
375-2626
**Kevin, Shelbia
& Staff**



*May the
Christmas Gifts of Peace,
Love and Hope
be yours this Christmas Day
and throughout the Year.*

Staff and Residents of the
United Methodist Memorial Home

GENEALOGY REPORT

SHINER

A former Registered Nurse at Wells Community Hospital, Wilda Price Shiner, 88, died Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2003 at the United Methodist Home in Warren.

In addition to the nursing position at Wells Community Hospital, she also was a former director of nursing at Blackford County Hospital in Hartford City. Mrs. Shiner had lived most of her life in Montpelier before moving to the Warren home.

She was a member of the Indiana Nursing Association, Business & Professional Women, of which she was a past district director, Eastern Star Alethia Chapter 206 in Montpelier, a Past Worthy Matron and a former member of the White Shrine.

She was a graduate of Wittier High School in California and received her nursing degree from Indiana University. She attended the First United Methodist Church in Montpelier.

Born Jan. 20, 1915 in Montpelier to Ernest Earl and Rilla Ely Hughes, she was preceded in death by two husbands, Dorsey LaVaughn Price and Orville Shiner.

She is survived by three sons, John B. Price and Dorsey L. Price, both of Poneto and David L. Price of Bullhead City, Ariz.; a stepson, James Shiner of Jonesboro, six step-grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Lester E. Price, a step daughter, Waunita Godfrey, a sister, a brother and a granddaughter.

Services were held at Glancy Funeral Homes Walker Chapel in Montpelier with Pastor Bob Baszner officiating and burial in Woodlawn Cemetery in Montpelier.

An Eastern Star service was held at the funeral home.

ELLIOTT

A former employee of the City of Bluffton, Ronald Elliott, 59, of Bunker Hill, died at 3:25 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003 at his home.

Born in Hartford City on Jan. 26,

1944 to Virgil and Lela Bousman Elliott, he was a former resident of Jackson Township and of Hartford City. He worked in the maintenance department for the City of Bluffton and had also worked for Sheller Globe in Montpelier. He had also been self-employed.

He is survived by his mother of Hartford City; two sons, Houston Elliott of Warren and Travis Elliott of Hartford City; four daughters, Sheila Hunter of Richmond, Amber Trivett of Tucson, Ariz., Amanda Elliott of Warren, and Seabrook Gullen of Fenton, Mich.; a brother, Duane Elliott of Hartford City; two sisters, Donna Faust of Jeffersonville and Peggy Sheppard of Linton; a half-brother, Rodney Bousman of Hartford City; and one grandson.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by one son, Torrance Elliott.

Services were held at Glancy Funeral Home, Walker Chapel in Montpelier with Rev. Lynn Mefford officiating. Burial was in Asbury Cemetery.

WILLIAMSON

Warren native Francis I. (Butch) Williamson, 60, of Marion, died at 5:33 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003 at Marion General Hospital.

Born Feb. 21, 1943 to Claude J. and Mary A. Searles Williamson, he was a member of the Hillcrest Church of the Nazarene and had lived in Grant County for the past five years after moving from Fort Wayne.

He is survived by his parents of Warren, and a sister, Melinda Reece of Warren.

Services were held at Glancy Funeral Home, H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren, with Pastor Bill Keen officiating.

Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Warren. Preferred memorials to Carey Services of Marion.

BIRTHS

Brandon and Lesley Goodpaster Jones, Van Buren, are the parents of a daughter, Amazza Sue, born at 4:54 p.m. November 20, 2003 at Parkview Huntington Hospital. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces at birth, and joins siblings Reilley, 11, Zachariah, 3, and Alexander, 2.


Grandparents are Pat and Tobey Goodpaster, Marion; Claudia Taylor, Van Buren; and Phil and Pam Jones, Florida. Great-grandparents are Betty and Bernard Goodpaster, Nashville, IN; Claude and Ruby Taylor, Van Buren; and Naomi Jones, Marion.

ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE


Harold and Phyllis (Arnold) Harness, of 6557 S - 300 E, Warren, IN, will celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary with an Open House Dec. 28, 2003 at Plumtree United Church of Christ from 2-4 p.m. They were married Dec. 24, 1953 at the Boehmer Church Parsonage in Wells County.

Their children, Linda Eltzroth of Huntington and Don Harness of Warren, will be hosting the event. The Harnesses also have six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Harold is a retired farmer and Phyllis is a homemaker; serving as the Area Coordinator for the Bread of Life Food Pantry in Warren with Harold assisting her. Come help them celebrate this treasured occasion.





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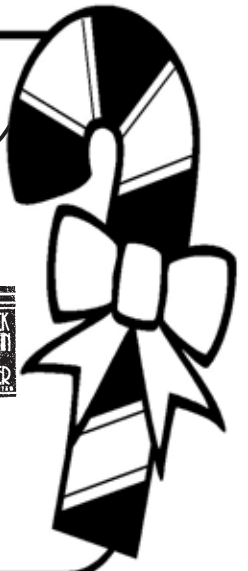
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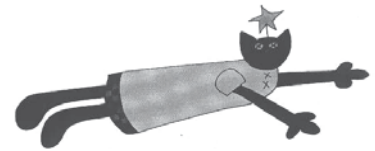
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May Your Holiday Be Blessed



Season's
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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

THE CHRISTMAS I LOANED MY SON

By Mrs. N. H. Muller
 Q.: Is there any place where we can borrow a little boy three or four years old for the Christmas holidays? We have a nice home and would take wonderful care of him and bring him back safe and sound. We used to have a little boy, but he couldn't stay and we miss him so when Christmas comes.

-N.M.

A.: If anyone has a little boy to loan over Christmas, write to this column as early as possible, marking "Christmas" on outside of envelope.

As I read the above appeal in our local newspaper something happened to me: for the first time since my husband's death I thought of grief as belonging to someone else. I read and reread the letter to the editor. Should I answer it? Could I answer it?

When I received word from Washington that my husband had been killed in service overseas, I'd taken my little son and moved back to the tiny village of my birth.

I'd gone to work to help support my son and time had helped to erase a few scars in my heart and to soften the blow of my husband's passing. But there were special times when the ache would return and loneliness would engulf me. Birthdays, our wedding anniversary and holidays...

This particular Christmas the old pain was returning when my eyes caught the appeal in the newspaper column. We used to have a little boy, but he couldn't stay and we miss him so when Christmas comes... I, too, knew what missing was, but I had my little boy. I knew how empty the sparkle of Christmas is unless you see it by the candles of joy in a child's eyes.

I answered the appeal. The writer of the letter was a widower who lived with his mother. He had

lost his beloved wife and his little son the same year.

That Christmas my son and I shared a joyous day with the widower and his mother. Together, we found a happiness that we doubted would ever be ours again.

But the best part is that this joy was mine to keep throughout the years for each of the 10 Christmases since. You see, the man who wrote the letter became my husband.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

by Rian B. Anderson

Pa never had much compassion for the lazy or those who squandered their means and then never had enough for the necessities. But for those who were genuinely in need, his heart was as big as all outdoors. It was from him that I learned the greatest joy in life comes from giving, not from receiving.

It was Christmas Eve 1881. I was fifteen years old and feeling like the world had caved in on me because there just hadn't been enough money to buy me the rifle that I'd wanted so bad that year for Christmas.

We did the chores early that night for some reason. I just figured Pa wanted a little extra time so we could read in the Bible. So after supper was over I took my boots off and stretched out in front of the fireplace and waited for Pa to get down the old Bible. I was still feeling sorry for myself and, to be honest, I wasn't in much of a mood to read scriptures.

But Pa didn't get the Bible... instead he bundled up and went outside. I couldn't figure it out because we had already done all the chores. I didn't worry about it long though. I was too busy wallowing in self-pity.

Soon Pa came back in. It was a cold clear night out and there was ice in his beard. "Come on, Matt,"

he said. "Bundle up good, it's cold out tonight." I was really upset then. Not only wasn't I getting the rifle for Christmas, now Pa was dragging me out in the cold, and for no earthly reason that I could see.

We'd already done all the chores, and I couldn't think of anything else that needed doing, especially not on a night like this. But I knew Pa was not very patient at one dragging one's feet when he'd told them to do something, so I got up and put my boots back on and got my cap, coat, and mittens. Ma gave me a mysterious smile as I opened the door to leave the house. Something was up, but I didn't know what.

Outside, I became even more dismayed. There in front of the house was the work team, already hitched to the big sled. Whatever it was we were going to do wasn't going to be a short, quick, little job. I could tell. We never hitched up the big sled unless we were going to haul a big load.

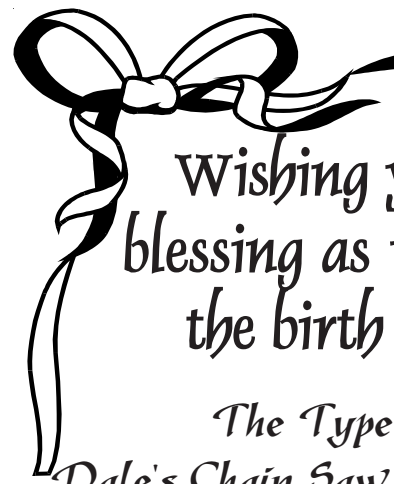
Pa was already up on the seat, reins in hand. I reluctantly climbed up beside him. The cold was already biting at me. I wasn't happy.

CONTINUED PAGE 8

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Merry Christmas
 and best wishes
 for the
 New Year.

Bob & Laura
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 Alyssa & Mary Ann

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 7

When I was on, Pa pulled the sled around the house and stopped in front of the woodshed. He got off and I followed. "I think we'll put on the high sideboards," he said. "Here, help me." The high sideboards! It had been a bigger job than I wanted to do with just the low sideboards on, but whatever it was we were going to do would be a lot bigger with the high sideboards on.

When we had exchanged the sideboards Pa went into the woodshed and came out with an armload of wood—the wood I'd spent all summer hauling down from the mountain, and then all fall sawing into blocks and splitting. What was he doing? Finally I said something. "Pa," I asked, "what are you doing?"

"You been by the Widow Jensen's lately?" he asked. The Widow Jensen lived about two miles down the road. Her husband had died a year or so before and left her with three children, the oldest being eight.

Sure, I'd been by, but so what? "Yeah," I said, "why?"

"I rode by just today," Pa said. "Little Jakey was out digging around in the woodpile trying to find a few chips. They're out of wood, Matt." That was all he said and then he turned and went back into the woodshed for another armload of wood. I followed him.

We loaded the sled so high that I began to wonder if the horses would be able to pull it. Finally, Pa called a halt to our loading, then we went to the smoke house and Pa took down a big ham and a side of bacon. He handed them to me and told me to put them in the sled and wait. When he returned he was carrying a sack of flour over his right shoulder and a smaller sack of something in his left hand.

"What's in the little sack?" I asked.

"Shoes. They're out of shoes. Little Jakey just had gunnysacks wrapped around his feet when he was out in the woodpile this morning. I got the children a little candy too. It just wouldn't be Christmas without a little candy."

We rode the two miles to Widow Jensen's pretty much in silence. I tried to think through what Pa was doing. We didn't have much by worldly standards. Of course, we did have a big woodpile, though most of what was left now was still in the form of logs that I would have to saw into blocks and split before we could use it. We also had meat and flour, so we could spare that, but I knew we didn't have any money, so why was Pa buying them shoes and candy? Really, why was he doing any of this? Widow Jensen had closer neighbors than us. It shouldn't have been our concern.

We came in from the blind side of the Jensen house and unloaded the wood as quietly as possible... then we took the meat and flour and shoes to the door.

We knocked. The door opened a crack and a timid voice said, "Who is it?"

"Lucas Miles, Ma'am, and my son, Matt. Could we come in for a bit?"

Widow Jensen opened the door and let us in. She had a blanket wrapped around her shoulders. The children were wrapped in another and were sitting in front of the fireplace by a very small fire that hardly gave off any heat at all.

Widow Jensen fumbled with a match and finally lit the lamp. "We brought you a few things, Ma'am," Pa said and set down the sack of flour. I put the meat on the table. Then Pa handed her the sack that had the shoes in it. She opened it hesitantly and took the shoes out one pair at a time. There was a pair for her and one for each of the children—sturdy shoes, the best shoes that would last.

I watched her carefully. She bit her lower lip to keep it from trembling and then tears filled her eyes and started running down her cheeks. She looked up at Pa like she wanted to say something, but it wouldn't come out.

"We brought a load of wood too, Ma'am," Pa said, then he turned to me and said, "Matt, go bring enough in to last for awhile. Let's get that fire up to size and heat this place up."

I wasn't the same person when I went back out to bring in the wood. I had a big lump in my throat and, much as I hate to admit it, there were tears in my eyes too. In my mind I kept seeing those three kids huddled around the fireplace and their mother standing there with tears running down her cheeks and so much gratitude in her heart that she couldn't speak. My heart swelled within me and a joy filled my soul that I'd never known before. I had given at Christmas many times before, but never when it had made so much difference.


I could see we were literally saving the lives of these people. I

CONTINUED PAGE 9



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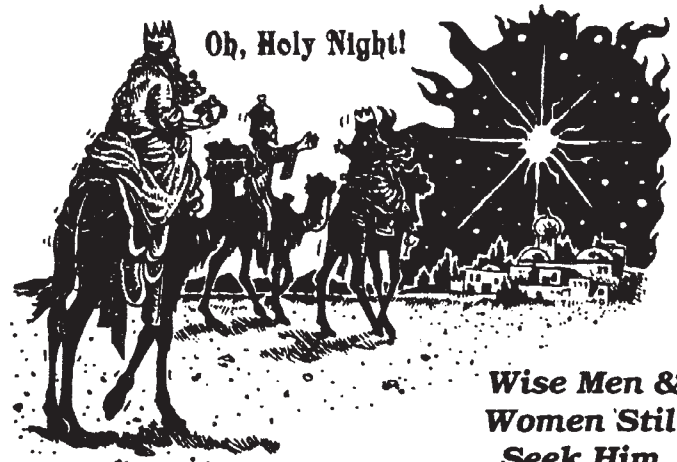
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Joy to you and yours at this wonder of all seasons.

George & Lois Dye
Karen Campbell



Oh, Holy Night!



Wise Men & Women Still Seek Him.

May your family be drawn closer together as you remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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AREA NEWS CONTINUED

MORE PAGE 8

soon had the fire blazing and everyone's spirits soared. The kids started giggling when Pa handed them each a piece of candy and Widow Jensen looked on with a smile that probably hadn't crossed her face for a long time. She finally turned to us. "God bless you," she said. "I know the Lord himself has sent you. The children and I have been praying that he would send one of his angels to spare us."

In spite of myself, the lump returned to my throat and the tears welled up in my eyes again. I'd never thought of Pa in those exact terms before, but after Widow Jensen mentioned it I could see that it was probably true. I was sure that a better man than Pa had never walked the earth. I started remembering all the times he had gone out of his way for Ma and me, and many others. The list seemed endless as I thought on it.

Pa insisted that everyone try on the shoes before we left. I was amazed when they all fit and I wondered how he had known what sizes to get. Then I guessed that if he was on an errand for the Lord that the Lord would make sure he got the right sizes.

Tears were running down Widow Jensen's face again when we stood up to leave. Pa took each of the kids in his big arms and gave them a hug. They clung to him and didn't want us to go. I could see that they missed their pa, and I was glad that I still had mine.

At the door Pa turned to Widow Jensen and said, "The Mrs. wanted me to invite you and the

children over for Christmas dinner tomorrow. The turkey will be more than the three of us can eat, and a man can get cantankerous if he has to eat turkey for too many meals. We'll be by to get you about eleven. It'll be nice to have some little ones around again. Matt, here, hasn't been little for quite a spell." I was the youngest. My two older brothers and two older sisters were all married and had moved away. Widow Jensen nodded and said, "Thank you, Brother Miles. I don't have to say, 'May the Lord bless you,' I know for certain that He will."

Out on the sled I felt a warmth that came from deep within and I didn't even notice the cold. When we had gone a ways, Pa turned to me and said, "Matt, I want you to know something. Your ma and me have been tucking a little money away here and there all year so we could buy that rifle for you, but we didn't have quite enough. Then yesterday a man who owed me a little money from years back came by to make things square. Your ma and me were real excited, thinking that now we could get you that rifle, and I started into town this morning to do just that. But on the way I saw little Jakey out scratching in the woodpile with his feet wrapped in those gunnysacks and I knew what I had to do. So, Son, I spent the money for shoes and a little candy for those children. I hope you understand."

I understood, and my eyes became wet with tears again. I understood very well, and I was so glad Pa had done it. Just then the rifle seemed very low on my list of priorities. Pa had given me a lot more. He had given me the look on Widow Jensen's face and the radiant smiles of her three children.

For the rest of my life, whenever I saw any of the Jensens, or split a block of wood, I remembered, and remembering brought back that same joy I felt riding home beside Pa that night. Pa had given me much more than a rifle that night, he had given me the best Christmas of my life.

SANTA'S FAVORITES SAYINGS, SUPERSTITIONS AND QUOTES

(from www.santas.net)

- "To have good health throughout the next year, eat an apple on Christmas Eve."
- "Eat plum pudding on Christmas and avoid losing a friend before next Christmas."
- "On Christmas Eve all animals can speak. However, it is bad luck to test this superstition."
- "The child born on Christmas Day will have a special fortune."
- "Snow on Christmas means Easter will be green."
- "Good luck will come to the home where a fire is kept burning throughout the Christmas season."

their old shoes during the Christmas season to prevent misfortunes in the coming year.

"He who has no Christmas in his heart will never find Christmas under a tree."

Sunshine Magazine.




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EPHESIANS 5:2 NIV



NOEL NOEL
Jim & Sandy Martin
Auto Body Shop



Happy Holidays from Old Milkhouse Ceramics



Merry Christmas from the employees of **North Central Co-Op**

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

SANTA'S PRAYER ON CHRISTMAS EVE

By Warren D. Jennings
The sleigh was all packed, the reindeer were fed,
But Santa still knelt by the side of the bed.

"Dear Father," he prayed "Be with me tonight.

There's much work to do and my schedule is tight.

I must jump in my sleigh and streak through the sky,

Knowing full well that a reindeer can't fly.

I will visit each household before the first light;

I'll cover the world and all in one night.

With sleigh bells a-ringing, I'll land on each roof,

Amid the soft clatter of each little hoof.

To get in the house is the difficult part,

So I'll slide down the chimney of each child's heart.

My sack will hold toys to grant all their wishes.

The supply will be endless like the loaves and the fishes.

I will fill all the stockings and not leave a track.

I'll eat every cookie that is left for my snack.

I can do all these things Lord, only through You,

I just need your blessing, then it's easy to do.

All this is to honor the birth of the One,

That was sent to redeem us, Your most Holy Son.

So to all of my friends, lest Your glory I rob,

Please Lord, remind them who gave me this job."

NAUGHTY OR NICE

There was the little boy who approached Santa in a department store with a long list of requests. He wanted a bicycle and a sled, a chemical set, a cowboy suit, a set of trains, a baseball glove and roller skates.

"That's a pretty long list," Santa said sternly. "I'll have to check in my book and see if you were a good boy."

"No, no," the youngster said quickly. "Never Mind checking, I'll just take the roller skates."

At Christmas play and make good cheer,

For Christmas comes but once a year.

- Thomas Tusser 1524-80

GIFT IDEAS

Christmas gift suggestions from Oren Arnold: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.—Burton Hillis (Better Homes and Gardens)

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.—Calvin Coolidge

Christmas, my child, is love in action. ... Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas.—Dale Evans Rogers

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.—Norman Vincent Peale

So remember while December brings the only Christmas day, in the year let there be Christmas in the things you do and say.—Anonymous

May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope; The spirit of Christmas which is peace; The heart of Christmas which is love.

--- Ada V. Hendricks

Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.—Hamilton Wright Mabi

I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month.—Harlan Miller (Better Homes and Gardens)

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Lea Ann 375-2492 12/19*

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12 13 14 15 16 17 18

AREA NEWS CONTINUED

YES VIRGINIA ...

From the Editorial Page of The New York Sun, written by Francis P. Church, September 21, 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor—I am 8 years old. "Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

"Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun, it's so.'

"Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

Virginia O'Hanlon

115 West Ninety-fifth Street Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical

age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no

child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither

children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah,

Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



*Happy
Birthday
Jesus*



*In the Spirit
of Giving...*

*May the warm,
wonderful season of
Yuletide bring happiness
to you and yours.*

*You've been wonderful to us
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